ABSTRACT

A signal synthesizer according to the present invention produces a high speed or high frequency carrier waveform without employing an ASIC or FPGA operating at a sampling rate of greater than twice the carrier frequency. The signal synthesizer basically simulates a high speed or high frequency direct digital synthesizer with a plurality of low speed or low frequency direct digital synthesizers. The low speed synthesizers are operated in parallel and each one produces an intermediate carrier waveform with a frequency less than the desired carrier frequency. The intermediate carrier waveforms are subsequently multiplexed together to form a high frequency digital carrier waveform that is subsequently converted to an analog signal with a high-speed digital-to-analog converter. In addition, the signal synthesizer may perform phase, frequency and/or amplitude modulation.